In the Claims

    Claims pending

- At time of the Action: claims 1-97

- After this Response: claims 1-8, 10, and 12-15.

Withdrawn: claims 16-97.

Canceled: claims 9 and 11.

Amended claims: claim 1.

1.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

receiving a request to perform a media operation with respect to a media file, wherein the receiving is through a user interface;

determining a media provider from a plurality of media providers to which the media file is attributable;

assessing if the media provider allows the media operation to be performed with respect to the media file; [[and]]

performing the requested media operation if allowed by the media provider; and

denying the requested media operation if not allowed by the media provider.

2.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is performed with the aid of a unique identifier for the media provider that is within the media file.

3.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is performed by finding a unique identifier associated with the media provider that is within a header of the media file.

4.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the determining is performed without communication across a communications network.

5.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is performed by executing computer code received from the media provider.

6.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is performed by executing a code module received from the media provider and associated with the requested media operation.

7.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is performed by calling an API associated with a code module, wherein the code module is received from the media provider and associated with the requested media operation.

8.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the assessing is performed without communication across a communications network.

9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising communicating with the media provider if the media operation is not allowed by the media provider and presenting options to a user for gaining allowance from the media provider.

11.   (Canceled).

12.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation includes downloading the media file to a portable media playing device.

13.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation includes recording the media file onto a permanent medium.

14.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation includes recording the media file onto a compact disk.

15.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the media operation includes recording the media file onto a digital video disk.

16.   (Withdrawn) A system comprising:
a media player; and

a media operation integrator in communication with the media player and capable of receiving, from one of multiple remote media providers, instructions to customize the media player,

wherein the media player is capable of following the instructions.

17.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to follow the instructions after the media player receives a request to provide an operation with respect to a media file that is attributable to the remote media provider that provided the instructions.

18.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to play or not play a media file attributable to the remote media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

19.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to record or not record onto a permanent medium a media file attributable to the remote media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

20.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is configured to download or not download onto a portable device a media file attributable to the remote media provider based on the instructions from the remote media provider.

21.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, further comprising a user interface customizable by the media player, wherein the instructions include altering the user interface.

22.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16. further comprising a registry database of remote media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the media operation integrator is capable of refusing the instructions if the remote media provider is not included in the registry database.

23.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the instructions include computer code executable at request of the media player.

24.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, further comprising a registry database of remote media providers from which instructions can be received, wherein the registry database is capable of being altered.

25.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with respect to a media file.

26.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a record of a number of times an operation is performed by the media player with respect to a media file and the media operation integrator is further capable of communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is attributable.

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27.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 16, wherein the media player is capable of building a record of a number of times the media player plays a media file and communicating the record to the remote media provider to which the media file is attributable.

28.   (Withdrawn) A system comprising:

a media player; and

a code module received from a remote media provider,

wherein the media player is configured to call the code module when it receives a request to perform an operation with respect to a media file attributable to the remote media provider.

29.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the media player is further configured to call the code module using one or more APIs.

30.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing how the media player is to display a name for the remote media provider.

31.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing how the media player is to display a name for the media file.

32.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation.

33.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the operation includes playing the media file.

34.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the operation includes copying the media file onto a permanent medium.

35.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing whether or not the media player is to perform the operation, and the operation includes copying the media file onto a temporary medium.

36.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, wherein the code module includes instructions governing how the media player is to structure a user interface to show a user that it is performing the operation.

37.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, further comprising:
a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and

wherein the media player is further configured to call the second code module when it receives a second request to perform a second operation with respect to a second media file attributable to the second remote media provider.

38.   (Withdrawn) The system of claim 28, further comprising:

a second code module received from a second remote media provider, and

wherein the media player is further configured to indicate to a user that:

the media file is attributable to the remote media provider; and

one or more second media files received from the second remote media provider are attributable to the second remote media provider.

39.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving input into a media player's user interface to gain access to a remote media provider;

enabling the remote media provider to present a set of media operations within the user interface;

enabling selection of one of the media operations through the user interface; and

performing the selected media operation.

40.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes downloading a media file, and further comprising integrating the media file into a media library.

41.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes downloading a media file, and further comprising saving the media file in a folder based on metadata associated with the media file.

42.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes downloading a media file.

43.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes downloading a media file and further comprising:

receiving metadata with respect to the media file; and

renaming the media file based on the metadata.

44.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes playing a media file.

45.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the selected media operation includes recording a media file.

46.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider includes presenting a media provider user interface within the media player user interface.

47.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the enabling the remote media provider includes presenting a webpage of the remote media provider within the media player user interface.

48.　(Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

　　receiving a media file;

　　locating metadata associated with the media file; and

　　storing the media file according to the metadata.

49.　(Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file.

50.　(Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file and a subfolder named after an album title of the media file.

51.　(Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes saving the media file in a folder named after an author of the media file, a subfolder named after an album title of the media file, and a sub-subfolder named after a track name of the media file.

52.　(Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes saving the media file with a name associated with the metadata.

53.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing includes adding a link to the media file in a media library.

54.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein the storing is performed immediately after the receiving and without user interaction.

55.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 48, wherein if the receiving is interrupted, further comprising automatically restarting the receiving.

56.   (Withdrawn) A user interface comprising:

a first graphical interface configured to enable a user to select a remote media provider from multiple remote media providers;

a second graphical interface configured to enable the user to select a media file presented by the remote media provider; and

a visual space configured to render the media file.

57.   (Withdrawn) The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is tailored to the selected media provider.

58.   (Withdrawn) The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is tailored to the selected media provider and is enclosed within the first graphical interface.

59.   (Withdrawn) The user interface of claim 56, wherein the second graphical interface is generated with a webpage from the selected media provider.

60.   (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

receiving a code module from a remote media provider;

receiving a request to perform a media operation; and

executing the code module to determine whether or not the requested media operation is allowable or not allowable.

61.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the code module is callable with an API.

62.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a request to integrate the remote media provider into a media player; and

requesting the code module from the remote media provider.

63.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein a media player application receives the code module, receives the request to perform the media operation, and performs the media operation if the requested media operation is allowable.

64.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a media player application's user interface to include a control enabling a user to select to be connected to the remote media provider.

65.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising altering a media player application's user interface to include a webpage of the remote media provider.

66.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

altering a media player application's user interface to include a web page of the remote media provider; and

enabling a user to interact with the remote media provider through the media player application's user interface.

67.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module;

receiving a third code module; and

receiving a fourth code module.

68.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module; and

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performing background processing requested by the remote media provider using the second code module.

69.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module;

performing background processing requested by the remote media provider; and

communicating a result of the background processing to the remote media provider.

70.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module; and

compiling a number of times media files attributable to the remote media provider have been played.

71.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module; and

determining a license status with respect to a media file using the second code module; and

communicating the status to the remote media provider.

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72.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, further comprising:

receiving a second code module; and

creating a user interface with aid of executing the second code module.

73.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested operation is playing a media file.

74.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

75.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested operation is recording a media file onto a portable media-playing device.

76.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 60, wherein the requested operation is recording a media file onto a permanent medium.

77.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving first instructions from a first remote media provider;

receiving second instructions from a second remote media provider; and

tailoring a media player to conform to the first instructions and the second instructions.

78.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a user interface of the media player.

79.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes altering a visual space dedicated to the media player by incorporating a media-control module within the media player that generates a user interface within the visual space.

80.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for the first remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user interface of the media player.

81.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a name for the second remote media provider to a media provider selection screen of a user interface of the media player.

82.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes adding a selection control enabling a user to select to be connected to a URL associated with the first remote media provider.

83.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, wherein the tailoring includes incorporating a webpage associated with the first remote media provider into a user interface of the media player.

84. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77, further comprising receiving a media file from the first remote media provider, wherein the tailoring includes automatically incorporating a link to the media file into a media file library of the media player.

85. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving permission from a remote media provider to play a media file;

enabling play of the media file;

determining that the permission is expired;

communicating with the remote media provider to determine if the permission is renewed; and

disabling play of the media file if the permission is not renewed.

86. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, wherein the disabling is not performed until the communicating is performed.

87. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is expired is performed in part by recording a number of times that the media file plays.

88. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, wherein the determining that the permission is expired is performed by assessing if a date is passed.

89. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, further comprising playing the media file.

90.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, further comprising:

playing the media file; and

recording that the media file is played.

91.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 85, further comprising:

playing the media file;

recording that the media file is played; and

communicating the record to the remote media provider.

92.   (Withdrawn) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions that perform the following when executed by a computer:

receiving, from a media provider across a communications network, permission allowing a use of a media file;

recording the permitted use; and

performing the permitted use.

93.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use includes playing the media file.

94.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use includes recording the media file on a permanent medium.

95.   (Withdrawn) The computer-readable medium of claim 92, wherein the permitted use includes recording the media file on a temporary medium.

96.   (Withdrawn) An apparatus comprising:

means for receiving instructions from a remote media provider;

means for receiving a request to perform a media operation; and

means for determining whether or not the requested media operation is allowable or not allowable based on the instructions.

97.   (Withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 96, further comprising:

means for performing the requested media operation.